(ग) क्या विश्व बैंक की सहायता से उत्तर प्रदेश में नए अस्पताल/डिस्पेन्सरियां खोलने का कोई प्रस्ताव है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री (श्री बी० शंकरानंद) : (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन के पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

Blue print in Medical Colleges

3942. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Medical Council (IMC) has prepared a blue print on the system of payment seats in medical colleges: and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) Sub-committee of the Medical Council of India had made a proposal for the determination of the fee structure for payment seats in private medical colleges. Govt. have asked the MCI to reformulate their proposals keeping in view all aspects of the matter.

Nationwide Survey of Food Contaminates conducted by the I.C.M.

3943. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a recent nationwide survey of food contaminates conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research has revealed the unacceptably high levels of arsenic cadmium and lead in commercial brands of infant formula;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware of the fact that infants dependent upon formula food are at more than permissible risk due to arsonic cadmium and lead contamination;

(c) whether Government are aware of the serious risks to life and health faced by infants; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to ensure that commercial infant formula is not contaminated by such metals ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (d) The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) have reported that they have undertaken a multi-centric study on "Surveillance of Food Contaminants in India." Commercial brands of infant food formula was one of the commodities studies.

Although the study indicates higher levels of arsenic cadmium and lead in infant food products as compared to the limit prescribed by WHO, it has been recommended that the contamination needs to be assessed in a critical and comprehensive manner keeping in view the raw material and type of packagings used.

It has further been recommended that statutory limits be prescribed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act to ensure marketing of quality infant food products. Necessary action is being taken in this regard.

Busting of a racket involved in Sale of Outdated Scalp Vein Sets

3944. SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the busting of a racket involving repacking of outdated scalp vein sets used for blood or glucose transfusion and selling these to hospitals; and

(b) if so, what action Government contemplates against the persons involved in the trade to check this onslaught against humanity ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE : (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Blind Persons in the country

3945. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of blind persons in the rural and the urban areas in the country and its percentage till date; and

(b) the causes of blindness and steps taken by Government to get rid of this problem ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) The NPCB-WHO Survey 1986-89 has shown that the prevalence rate of blindness per 10,000 population is 101 in urban and 163 in rural areas. This represents 82.34% of the blind people being in rural areas and 17.66% in urban areas.